

SC
#12 (NE)
2/11/03

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Gregory Lindhorst et al.) Group Art Unit: 2176
)
Serial Number: 09/223,774) Examiner: William Bashore
)
Filed: December 31, 1998) Attorney Docket No.: 03797.77995

For: PAGE OBJECT MODEL

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

FEB 10 2003

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

The present paper is responsive to the Final Office Action dated November 7, 2002 and is being filed during the original shortened statutory period for responding to the Action, which is set to expire on February 7, 2003. Accordingly, no extension fees are believed to be due in connection with this filing. However, to the extent any fees are required for this paper, please charge such fees to deposit account no. 19-0733.

Request for reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-11 remain pending.

In general, the present invention is drawn to a computer-readable medium or method wherein a first page contains a page object control that stores a list of methods or properties that are associated with the first page. A second page instantiates the page object control from the first page and implements the method or property from the first page into the second page. Thus, in the present invention, there are at least two pages and

OK TO ENTER 0582 2/25/2003

one page uses another page to instantiate a page object control from the other page into itself.

In contrast, the cited prior art (e.g., Glaser, U.S. Patent No 5,953,731) discloses a method for creating a web page by dragging and dropping objects into an editor window. Rather than disclosing a method wherein one page uses another page, Glaser discloses the creation of a page in an application and does not teach or suggest the created page instantiating a page object control from another page and implementing a method or property associated with the other page. Rather, Glaser discloses a method of page creation during design time as demonstrated by the creation of a page through manipulation of objects in an application, not another page. This is different from the present invention in which one page uses another page during run-time.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glaser (US Patent No 5,953,731). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites a page object control on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page wherein a second page is capable of instantiating said page object control and implementing said at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page into said second page. One of ordinary skill in the art given the Glaser disclosure would not have been motivated to provide the claim 1 invention at the time the invention was made.

Glaser does not teach or suggest a page object control on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page as recited in claim 1. The Examiner asserts that "Glaser teaches a software development environment comprising an Applet control list of all forms and projects" and "inserting controls from

one form or HTML page onto another HTML page” (Final Office Action, page 3, lines 1-3). However, contrary to the Examiner’s contention, this disclosure does not teach or suggest the claim 1 invention.

Glaser does not teach or suggest a page object control. Glaser discloses in the abstract “a user may select control from one form or HTML page and insert it into another HTML page”, as pointed out by the Examiner. However, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be aware of the significance of this phrase when taken by itself and out of context. For example, the term “control” is often defined in different ways depending on the context. One of ordinary skill in the art, after reading this phrase in the Glaser abstract, would further examine the Glaser patent to determine what is meant by the term “control” as used by Glaser.

Upon review of the next sentence in the abstract (i.e., “This results in the applet code associated with the selected control being inserted into the code for the HTML page being displayed in a code editor window or form editor window.”), one of ordinary skill in the art would realize that this sentence refers to Fig. 7C because Fig. 7C illustrates applet code being inserted into the code for an HTML page displayed in a code editor window. Because Fig. 7C directly corresponds to this disclosure in the abstract, one of ordinary skill in the art would then examine Fig. 7C to determine what was meant by the term “control.” To understand what Glaser is referring to when he discloses “control”, one of ordinary skill in the art would attempt to identify within Fig. 7C an element that is “selected” that is associated with the applet code that is inserted into the code for the HTML page being displayed in a code window. An element satisfying these criteria would most likely be the “control” Glaser refers to in his abstract.

Upon examination of the Glaser disclosure (including Fig. 7C), one of ordinary skill in the art would determine that the term “control” in the Glaser reference refers to the selected item labeled “GRID1” on the “Applet List” depicted in Fig. 7C. More generally, a “control”, according to Glaser, is an Applet in the list of Applet objects, one of which may be “GRID1” illustrated in Fig. 7C.

Claim 1 recites “a page object control on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page.” It is clear that the “control” of Glaser is not the same, nor does it suggest, the “page object control” of claim 1 despite the inadvertent use of the same word “control.” The page object control of claim 1 is “on a first page”. However, the “control” of Glaser (e.g., “GRID1” on the Applet list) is not “on a first page”. Glaser’s “control” (e.g., “GRID1”) is not on a page at all but rather, is an item on an applet list. In order to construe the “page object control” as potentially equivalent to or suggestive of Glaser’s “control”, it would be necessary to equate the applet list of Glaser itself with the “first page” of the present invention. This coupling is improper given the assumptions made by the Examiner because it was already assumed that the “applet list” of Glaser was equivalent to the “page object control”. If it is now assumed that the “applet list” is the “first page”, then, there is no equivalent to the “page object control.” Thus, the only way the Applet list can be equated with the “page object control” as the Examiner has attempted, is to equate the Applet list with the first page instead. This paradoxical requirement of assignment of the Applet list to two different entities at the same time illustrates that the Examiner’s assumptions are erroneous.

Moreover, claim 1 recites “a page object control on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page”. Even if the Examiner were to assume that the page object control is the Applet list as he has attempted to do and to ignore the absence of “a first page” as he has also done, Glaser still would not teach or suggest the claim 1 invention. The Applet list of Glaser contains a list of applet objects but does not store at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page. The objects on the applet list of Glaser are merely applet objects (such as a grid or a form) not methods or properties. Even if one were to ignore this fact and simply (erroneously) assert that either “PROJECT1”, “FORM1”, “GRID1”, or “GRID2”, for example, was a method or property, none of these would teach or suggest claim 1. Claim 1 recites “the at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page.” “PROJECT1”, “FORM1”, “GRID1”, or “GRID2”, for example, are simply generic objects “known to the development computer” (see. Col. 7, line 45) and are not associated with the first page. This point is further enforced because there is no “first page” disclosed.

The Examiner asserts that “the controls can be in the form of applets from an applet list...since it is known that applets contain methods and properties.” However, this assertion is incorrect. Applets as disclosed in Glaser are application scripts (col. 4, lines 19-22). Thus, contrary to the Examiner’s assertions, applets are computer programs for performing a task and therefore are unrelated to methods and properties. In any event, Glaser does not teach or suggest storing at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page. The applets disclosed in Glaser are not associated with the first page

even if one were to mistakenly assume that the applets constituted a list of at least one of a method and a property as the Examiner has done.

The Examiner further relies on Figs. 6B, 6C, and 6D in the alternative, however, none of these figures and accompanying disclosure teach or suggest claim 1. Figs. 6B-6D depict a display of an object, namely a “form” being a 4-row, 1-column grid. The user drags the form (“FORM1”) into a Code Editor window. See Fig. 6C, for example.

Figs. 6B, 6C and 6D do not teach or suggest a page object control on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page. There is no teaching or suggestion of a page object control. For an element in Glaser to be justifiably equated with the page object control of claim 1, the element would have to be on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page. Nothing in Figs. 6B, 6C or 6D satisfy or suggest this criteria. Referring to Fig. 6D, for example, the “Form1” window and the “Code Editor – Form2” window are not disclosed or illustrated as “on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page”. There is no list of anything at all in either of the windows. The window labeled “Project Manager” in Fig. 6D contains a list of objects to be incorporated in a code editor but does not store a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page as recited in claim 1. Instead, the “Project Manager” window merely contains a list of objects. Even if one were to erroneously conclude that the objects listed in the “Project Manager” window were methods or properties, one would still not arrive at the claim 1 invention because none of the items on the list in the “Project Manager” window are associated with the first page. The “Project Manager” window merely lists generic objects “known to the development

computer” (see. Col. 7, line 45) and are not associated with the first page because there is no “first page” disclosed.

In response to the lack of a page object control in Glaser, the Examiner argues that Glaser teaches applets and “an applet can be interpreted as an object which can be associated with (assigned to) a web page.” Even if this were true, it has nothing to do with the lack of teaching of a page object control in Glaser. The “page object control” recited in claim 1 is on a first page for storing a list of at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page. As discussed, there is no element taught or suggested in Glaser that satisfies these criteria.

Moreover, Glaser does not teach or suggest a second page as recited in claim 1. To identify an element that could justifiably be equated or be suggestive of the second page in claim 1, the element would have to be capable of instantiating the page object control and implementing the at least one of a method and a property associated with the first page into the second page. As discussed above, Glaser does not teach or suggest a page object control or a first page as recited in claim 1. Therefore, identifying a second page in Glaser with the recited associations with the page object control and first page is problematic. The Examiner equated the second page as recited in claim 1 with the “Code Editor” window illustrated in Fig. 7C and the page object control of claim 1 with the Applet list in Fig. 7C in one approach. For reasons set forth above, the applet list is not equivalent or suggestive of the page object control, however, even assuming that one were to assume that the applet list in Fig. 7C is equivalent or at least suggestive of the page object control, one of ordinary skill in the art would still not arrive at the claim 1 invention because claim 1 recites that the second page is capable of instantiating the page

object control (erroneously equated with the applet list). Glaser does not disclose that the “Code Editor” window is capable of instantiating the applet list itself.

The Examiner asserts that “it would have been obvious to interpret said forms from said applet list as associated with HTML pages, providing the advantage of form objects that are customized to different pages.” See Final Office Action page 3, lines 18-19. First, the alleged “advantage of form objects that are customized to different pages” is not provided in the prior art. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be provided with such a motivation. Secondly, and even more importantly, even assuming that it would have been obvious “to interpret said forms from said applet list as associated with HTML pages” as the Examiner has asserted, claim 1 recites “at least one of a method and a property associated with said first page.” Ignoring for the sake of argument that the “forms” are not methods or properties (as discussed above), one of ordinary skill in the art would have to be motivated not merely to associate “forms” with “HTML pages” but with “said first page”. Glaser provides no teaching or suggestion as such.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 1 is improper and should be withdrawn.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and is allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for claim 1.

Claim 3 recites a computer-implemented method for creating a first page capable of referencing a second page comprising the steps of editing said first page, referencing said second page from said first page, referencing at least one of a method or property from said first page, said at least one of a method or property being associated with said

second page and storing said first page. Claim 3 is allowable for at least the reasons set for above for related claim 1.

In addition, Glaser discloses a "Code Editor" window in Fig. 7C which the Examiner has equated with the "first page", however, the "Code Editor" is not equivalent or suggestive of the first page of claim 3. Claim 3 recites "referencing at least one of a method or property from said first page". Glaser does not teach or suggest referencing at least one of a method or property from the "Code Editor" window. The Examiner asserts in response to the lack of at least one of a method or property being associated with the second page that "since it is known that applets contain methods and properties, said methods and properties are copied along with said applet." See Final Office Action page 7u, lines 1-2. As discussed above, applets are computer programs for performing a task and do not relate to methods or properties. However, even if one were to erroneously conclude that an applet constituted at least one of a method and a property, Glaser still does not teach or suggest the applets as being associated with the second page as recited in claim 3. Glaser does not teach or suggest a second page at all.

In response to Glaser's lack of teaching of referencing the second page from the first page, the Examiner asserts that "it would have been obvious to initially reference the page with the desired control (applet) prior to copying said control." See Final Office Action page 7, lines 10-11. However, this argument does not pertain to referencing the second page from the first page. Glaser discloses dragging and dropping an applet from one portion of a display to another by a user. Nowhere does Glaser teach or suggest referencing the second page from the first page. In Fig. 6C, Glaser illustrates a user dragging and dropping "FORM1" into "CODE EDITOR". However, neither of these

windows references the other. Rather, a user drags an element from one window and drops it into a second. At best, a user is directly “referencing” the FORM1. However, claim 3 recites referencing said second page from said first page. Glaser does not teach or suggest this referencing.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 4-7 depend from claim 3 and are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for claim 3.

Claim 8 recites a system for allowing manipulation of pages as objects for exchange between a client and server comprising a first page object control on a first page, a second page object control on a second page, said second page object control storing a list, said list comprising at least one of a method and a property associated with said second page, at least one method on said second page, wherein said first page retrieves said second page object control and is capable of incorporating at least one method or property from said list to support script in said first page.

The Examiner asserts that Glaser teaches “an Applet control list of all forms and projects” and “inserting controls from one form or HTML page onto another HTML page”. However, this disclosure does not relate to a page object control for at least the reasons set forth above.

Glaser does not teach or suggest a first page object control on a first page as recited in claim 8. To support the first page object control on a first page, the Examiner refers to “a form window displaying applet “FORM1” ... dragged into a “FORM2” drop location.” See Final Office Action page 5, lines 12-14. This description appears to

correspond to Figs. 6B-6D and 7C. However, the Examiner does not specifically indicate which element he is equating with the first page or which element he is equating with the second page. The Examiner asserts “the second page can instantiate an applet, including the methods and properties associated with said applet, which is copied from the first page onto the second page.” See Final Office Action page 5, lines 15-17. Thus, referring to Fig. 7C, the Examiner is apparently equating the window entitled “Code Editor” with the “second page”, and the element entitled “Applet List” in Fig. 7C with the “first page”. However, claim 8 recites a “second page object control on a second page”. The “Code Editor” does not contain a second page object control nor does the “Code Editor” contain anything that could be construed as a second page object control. Claim 8 further recites “a first page object control on a first page.” The “Applet List” (equated with the first page by the Examiner) does not contain a first page object control. Thus, neither of the windows illustrated in Fig. 7C contain a page object control.

The Examiner appears to be asserting that the Applet List is a page object control. For reasons set forth above, this is erroneous. However, even if one were to erroneously conclude that the Applet list is a page object control as the Examiner appears to have done, one would still not arrive at the claim 8 invention. First of all, claim 8 recites a first page object control and a second page object control. As Fig. 7C illustrates, only one Applet list is present. Further, the Applet list is not on a first or second page. The Applet list is not on a page at all but merely lists applets.

Claim 8 recites the second page object control storing a list, said list comprising at least one of a method and a property associated with the second page. As stated, the “Code Editor” does not contain a list at all. The “Applet List” contains a list of applets

but does not contain a list comprising at least one of a method and a property. As discussed above, the Examiner's assertions that "since it is known that applets contain methods and properties, said methods and properties are copied along with said applet" is erroneous. Applets are merely computer programs for performing an action and are unrelated to methods and properties. However, even if one were to erroneously conclude that applets were equivalent to methods and properties as the Examiner has done, one would still not arrive at the claim 8 invention because claim 8 explicitly recites "said list comprising at least one of a method and a property associated with said second page." The "methods and properties", according to the Examiner, would be associated with the applets and not associated with said second page. The "methods and properties" (defined by the examiner as "methods and properties" contained in the applets) are not associated with any pages at all. Therefore, even if one were to mistakenly misconstrue and mischaracterize "methods and properties" as the Examiner has done, one would still not achieve the claim 8 invention.

Claim 8 further recites "said first page retrieves said second page object control and is capable of incorporating at least one method or property from said list to support script in said first page." Contrary to the Examiner's assertions, Glaser does not teach or suggest these features.

Referring again to Fig. 7C, Glaser does not teach or suggest that a first page retrieves the second page object control. As discussed above, Glaser does not teach or suggest a second page object control at all. However, even if one were to erroneously conclude that the Applet List was equivalent to the second page object control as the Examiner has done, Glaser still does not teach or suggest that a first page retrieves the

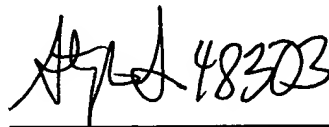
second page object control. Glaser does not teach or suggest any elements that retrieves the Applet list (mistakenly assuming that Applet list is the same as the second page object control as the Examiner has asserted). Glaser merely discloses dragging an applet from an applet list onto a Code Editor window. Even assuming that the "Code Editor" window is equivalent to the first page as the Examiner is assuming, the "Code Editor" window does not retrieve the applet list, nor is there any suggestion for the "Code Editor" window to retrieve the Applet list.


Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 8 is improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-11 depend from claim 8 and are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above for claim 8.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels, however, that further amendment and/or discussion may be helpful in facilitating prosecution of the case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at the number appearing below.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Christopher R. Glembocki, with the number 48303 written next to it.

 Christopher R. Glembocki
Registration No. 38,800

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
1001 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 508-9100

Date: February 7, 2003